

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 19, 2004. Claims 101-192 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 101-192 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 141 and 142 have been canceled, and claims 101,111, 121, 131, 143, 153, 163, 173 and 183 have been amended. Claims 101-140 and 143-192 thus remain for consideration.

Title

A new title has been provided. The new title is believed to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Specification

The specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the specification is now believed to be in compliance with all formality requirements.

§103 Rejections

Claims 101-192 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Horton et al. (EP 0267039), and further in view of Seth-Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,569), Azuma et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,959,863) and Ideno (U.S. Patent No. 4,953,208).

Claims 141 and 142 have been canceled, thereby rendering their rejections moot.

Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims (claims 101,111, 121, 131, 143, 153, 163, 173 and 183) are patentable over Horton, Seth-Smith, Azuma and Ideno.

Applicants' invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a system and method for handling a video signal. Each of the claims recites changing the phase of a portion of a color burst signal associated with the video signal "such that the color burst signal

is modified to include a portion having a changed phase and a portion having an unchanged phase”

Neither Horton, Seth-Smith, Azuma nor Ideno discloses changing the phase of a portion of a color burst signal associated with a video signal such that the color burst signal is modified to include a portion having a changed phase and a portion having an unchanged phase. In particular, Applicants note that Azuma’s col. 2, lines 3-27, merely discloses the use of an Inverse Fast Fourier Transformation (IFFT) means for the purpose of “providing different phase information” to the outputs of band-pass filters, the filters being used to divide frequency-multiplexed signals into sub-band signals. Using an IFFT in the manner disclosed in Azuma, to obtain a complex signal at the output of a band-pass filter, is a common signal processing technique and is unrelated any to changing phase within a color burst signal. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 101,111, 121, 131, 143, 153, 163, 173 and 183 are patentable over Horton, Seth-Smith, Azuma and Ideno – taken either alone or in combination – based at least on Applicants’ recited color burst implementation.

Further, since dependent claims inherit the limitations of their base claims, Applicants submit that dependent claims 102-110, 112-120, 122-130, 132-140, 144-152, 154-162, 164-172, 174-182 and 184-192 are patentable over the cited references based, at least, on their respective dependencies on claims 101,111, 121, 131, 143, 153, 163, 173 and 183.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the

requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the Applicants' undersigned attorney and, in the event that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:



Bruno Polito
Reg. No. 38,580
(212) 588-0800